

NIEREMBERGIA PLANT NAMED 'SUNNIPARISOBU'

Botanical/commercial classification:

*Nierembergia hybrida*/Nierembergia Plant

5 Varietal denomination

cv. Sunniparisobu

BACKGROUND OF THE VARIETY

10 The present invention relates to a new and distinct  
variety of Nierembergia plant originated from crossing of  
a Nierembergia hybrid variety called 'NB4' as the female  
parent and 'N10' as the male parent. 'Sunniparisobu' is a  
vegetative propagated variety.

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Progress

The female parent 'NB4' (unpatented) used in the  
crossing of 'Sunniparisobu' is a strain of our breeding  
20 lines grown at Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan, having a  
tufted, bushy shape. The plant height is lower than  
'Sunniparisobu'. The flowers are single and large, having  
strong purple petals.

25 The male parent 'N10' (unpatented) used in the  
crossing of 'Sunniparisobu' is a strain of our breeding  
lines grown at Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan, having  
erect growth habit. The plant height is about the same as  
'Sunniparisobu'. The flowers are single and medium size,  
30 having light purple with strong purple towards the  
center.

In July 1995, crossing of 'NB4' as the female parent  
and 'N10' as the male parent was conducted at Yokaichi-  
35 shi, Shiga-ken, Japan, and seedlings were obtained. In  
October 1996, one seedling was selected in view of its  
growth habit, flower size and color. That seedling was

propagated by cutting, and a trial was carried out by flower potting in the glasshouse and field from May to October 1997, at Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan. The botanical characteristics of that plant were then  
5 examined, using similar varieties 'Sunnicobu' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 13,934) and 'Montebranco' for comparison. As a result, it was concluded that this Nierembergia plant is distinguishable from any other variety, whose existence is known to us, and is uniform and stable in its  
10 characteristics. Then the new variety of Nierembergia plant was named 'Sunniparisobu'.

In the following description, the color-coding is in accordance with the Horticultural Colour Chart of The  
15 Royal Horticultural Society, London, England (R.H.S. Colour Chart).

#### SUMMARY OF THE VARIETY

20 This new variety is unlike any Nierembergia commercially available as evidenced by the following unique combinations of characteristics.

1. Erect growth habit with many branches.
2. Having a great profusion of blooms with the  
25 entire plant remaining in bloom for a considerable period of time.
3. The flowers are single and large. The petal color is light purple (R.H.S. 85B) with strong purple (R.H.S. 86B) towards the center. Yellow eye presents at  
30 the bottom of corolla throat.
4. The plant has a high resistance to rain, cold, heat and disease.

The new variety 'Sunniparisobu' differs from the  
35 similar variety 'Sunnicobu' in the following points.

1. The growth habit of 'Sunniparisobu' is erect. That of 'Sunnicobu' is tufted.

2. The plant of 'Sunniparisobu' is larger than that of 'Sunnicobu'.

3. The leaf of 'Sunniparisobu' is larger than that of 'Sunnicobu'.

5 4. The flower diameter of 'Sunniparisobu' is larger than that of 'Sunnicobu'.

5. The rain, heat, disease resistance of 'Sunniparisobu' is stronger than that of 'Sunnicobu'.

10 The new variety 'Sunniparisobu' differs from the similar variety 'Montebranco' in the following points.

1. The growth habit of 'Sunniparisobu' is erect. That of 'Montebranco' is tufted.

15 2. The plant of 'Sunniparisobu' is larger than that of 'Montebranco'.

3. The leaf of 'Sunniparisobu' is longer than that of 'Montebranco'.

4. The flower diameter of 'Sunniparisobu' is larger than that of 'Montebranco'.

20 5. The petal color of 'Sunniparisobu' is light purple (R.H.S. 85B) with strong purple (R.H.S. 86B) towards the center. That of 'Montebranco' is yellowish white (R.H.S. 155D).

25 6. The rain, heat, disease resistance and cold hardiness of 'Sunniparisobu' are stronger than those of 'Montebranco'.

30 This new variety of Nierembergia Plant 'Sunniparisobu' was asexually reproduced by the use of cuttings at Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan, and homogeneity and stability thereof were confirmed. The instant plant retains its distinctive characteristics and reproduces true to type in successive generations.

35 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The depicted plants had been reproduced by the use

of cuttings and were photographed during September 1998 while growing outdoor field at an age of approximately 10 months at Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan.

5           FIG. 1 illustrates a typical plant of the new variety of Nierembergia plant 'Sunniparisobu'.

          FIG. 2 illustrates flowers of the new variety of Nierembergia plant 'Sunniparisobu'.

10           The botanical characteristics of the new and distinct variety of Nierembergia plant named 'Sunniparisobu' are as follows, when observed during September at Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan, at an age of approximately 10 months.

15   Plant:

          Growth habit. - Erect.

          Height. - Approximately 32 cm.

          Spread. - Approximately 30 cm.

          Stem:

20           Thickness. - Approximately 2.0 mm.

          Color. - R.H.S. 146A (moderate olive green).

          Branching. - Abundant.

          Pubescence. - Present.

          Length of internode. - Approximately 11 mm.

25   Leaf:

          Whole shape. - Lanceolate.

          Length. - Approximately 38 mm.

          Width. - Approximately 4.5 mm.

30           Color of upper side. - R.H.S. 146A (moderate olive green).

          Pubescence. - Absent.

          Attachment angle to stem. - Horizontal.

          Petiole. - Absent.

          Flower:

35           Facing direction. - Upward.

          Type. - Single.

          Shape. - Cup-shaped, with five-fissures.

Diameter. - Approximately 37 mm.

Shape of petal tip. - Obtuse. Considerable variation in the shape and size.

Petal margin. - Entire, occasionally sinuate.

5 Length of corolla tube. - Approximately 15 mm.

Color of petal. - Upper side: R.H.S. 85B (light purple) with R.H.S. 86B (strong purple) toward the center.

Reverse side: R.H.S. 91D (very pale purple).

Eye color. - R.H.S. 7B (brilliant greenish yellow).

10 Size of eye color. - Approximately 5.6 mm.

Out-side color of corolla tube. - R.H.S. 85B (light purple).

Flowering habit. - When planted in April in Japan, the blooming period extends from June to October.

15 Pistil:

Number. - 1.

Color of stigma. - R.H.S. 144A (Strong yellow green).

Stamen:

Number. - 5.

20 Type. - Epigynocious.

Color of anther. - R.H.S. 12A (vivid yellow).

Hardiness:

Winter. - Excellent.

Rain. - Excellent.

25 Heat. - Excellent.

Resistance:

Disease. - Excellent.

Insect. - Good. Under the dry condition, may have some damage by the spider mite.

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This new variety of Nierembergia plant 'Sunniparisobu' is most suitable for flower bedding and potting.